

THIS CA UPDATE HAS BEEN SENT TO THE FOLLOWING:**COUNTIES:**

- Imperial
- Riverside/San Bernardino
- Los Angeles
- Orange
- Sacramento
- San Diego

LINES OF BUSINESS:

- Molina Medi-Cal Managed Care
- Molina Medicare
- Molina Marketplace (Covered CA)

PROVIDER TYPES:

- Medical Group/ IPA/MSO**
 - Primary Care**
 - IPA/MSO
 - Directs
- Specialists**
 - Directs
 - IPA
- Hospitals**
 - Ancillary**
 - CBAS
 - SNF/LTC
 - DME
 - Home Health
 - Other

Blood Lead Screening in Children: Provider Update 2023

This is an advisory notification to Molina Healthcare of California (MHC) network providers on blood lead screening in children.

The California Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS) and federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) require that all Medi-Cal children be tested for lead poisoning at ages 12 months and 24 months as part of required prevention services offered through the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Program.

If any child has not been tested at the above ages, and is under 72 months, they must be screened for lead poisoning as soon as they are identified.

What you need to know:

- **All** positive blood lead levels (BLL) need to be reported to the California Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch (CLPPB).
 - If you are using a point-of-care testing device, you are considered a laboratory, and **must report your results** via the Electronic Blood Lead Reporting System: Report Results: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/ccdphp/deodc/clppb/pages/report_results.aspx.
- No BLL is considered safe. Therefore, if any child tests positive, you should **repeat the test**, even if it is low (<3.5 mcg/dl), to ensure it is not increasing, and then **follow every 1 to 3 months** to ensure it goes to zero.
- **Any child with a level of 3.5 mcg/dl or above needs intervention.** This can include:
 - Nutritional counseling — to ensure the child is not anemic
 - Further work-up if the child is symptomatic (e.g., abdominal x-rays if the child has pica and is complaining of abdominal pain, etc.)
 - Referral to the local public health department — home evaluation is usually done if the child's level is 4-5 mcg/dl or higher
 - Referral to the local California Children's Services (CCS) agency — this is for any child with a level of **20 mcg/dl or higher**

Molina Interventions

- Any child with a BLL of 3.5 mcg/dl or above has a case manager assigned for outreach.
 - The case manager will also outreach to you, the child's PCP, to find out what follow-up has been done e.g., repeat BLLs, referrals and so forth.

- For any child with a BLL under 3.5 mcg/dl, an informational letter will be sent to the parent and the PCP.
 - This is to ensure that every child with a positive BLL gets education about the result.
 - We want to make sure these children work with you so that together you can try to identify where the child has had lead exposure and help eliminate it from the child’s environment.

Billing Information

- ICD-10 code: R78.71
- Primary CPT code: 83655
- Secondary CPT codes: 36415 and 36416

What you need to do:

For information on evaluating a child with a positive BLL, refer to the State Blood Lead Guidelines (**Table 1, page 9**) at: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/chdp/Documents/2023-Blood-Lead-Testing-and-Anticipatory-Guidance.pdf>.

Thank you for helping us keep our children healthy and free from the ill effects of lead exposure!

What if you need assistance?

If you have any questions regarding the notification, please contact your Molina Provider Services Representative below:

Service County Area	Provider Services Representative	Contact Number	Email Address
California Hospital Systems	Deletha Foster	909-577-4351	Deletha.Foster@molinahealthcare.com
Los Angeles	Clemente Arias	562-517-1014	Clemente.Arias@molinahealthcare.com
	Christian Diaz	562-549-3550	Christian.Diaz@molinahealthcare.com
Los Angeles / Orange County	Maria Guimoye	562-549-4390	Maria.Guimoye@molinahealthcare.com
Sacramento	Jennifer Rivera Carrasco	562-542-2250	Jennifer.RiveraCarrasco@molinahealthcare.com
San Bernardino	Luana McIver	909-501-3314	Luana.Mciver@molinahealthcare.com
San Bernardino / Riverside County	Vanessa Lomeli	909-577-4355	Vanessa.Lomeli2@molinahealthcare.com
Riverside County	Mimi Howard	562-549-3532	Smimi.Howard@molinahealthcare.com
San Diego / Imperial County	Briana Givens	562-549-4403	Briana.Givens@molinahealthcare.com
	Carlos Liciaga	858-614-1591	Carlos.Liciaga@molinahealthcare.com
	Salvador Perez	562-549-3825	Salvador.Perez@molinahealthcare.com

*If you are not contracted with Molina and wish to opt out of the Just the Fax, email: mhcproviderjustthefax@molinahealthcare.com
Please include provider name, NPI, county, and fax number and you will be removed within 30 days.*